

United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

Ridgecrest Field Office 300 South Richmond Road Ridgecrest, CA 93555-4436



October 4, 2002

3809(P) CACA-42806

RE: Cecil R- Jackson Revised Environmental Assessment

Dear Interested Party:

On June 10, 2002, the Ridgecrest Field Office of the Bureau of Land Management released an environmental assessment (EA) describing the potential environmental effects of the proposed Cecil R-Jackson mineral exploration project in the Panamint Mountains. Public comments were received until August 10, 2002.

The BLM received comments in 55 separate letters, emails, and telephone calls from public and private interested parties regarding the EA. Together those comments comprised 46 distinguishable areas of concern. After reviewing the comments, the BLM has elected to revise the EA. This revision, together with a list of BLM proposed mitigation measures that would become operational stipulations in the event that the BLM would approve the project proposal, is being sent to all persons or organizations that commented on the original EA. Other interested parties can obtain a copy of the EA and the stipulations on-line at the Ridgecrest Field Office's website address www.ca.blm.gov/ridgecrest. Additionally, a limited number of copies of the EA will be available for distribution to the local public at the address shown below.

The revised EA is available for review and comment by any interested persons or agencies. The BLM will receive comments until close of business November 8, 2002. Comments received after the close of the comment period may not be considered. All comments that are timely submitted will be reviewed and considered prior to a decision being made on this matter.

Comments or questions can be sent to:

Mr. Randy Porter Bureau of Land Management 300 S. Richmond Road Ridgecrest, CA 93555 (760) 384-5452

Comments will also be received by email at <u>Randy_Porter@ca.blm.gov</u>. Any email attachments must be formatted in Microsoft Word. Be aware that due to the fragile and potentially ephemeral nature of email, the BLM cannot assure receipt or response to email comments.

Thank you for your interest in the management of California Desert District lands.